1   2.   The method of claim 1, wherein receiving externally provided control operations includes

2   receiving a system reset operation.

1   3.   The method of claim 1, wherein receiving externally provided control operations includes

2   receiving a system power operation.

1   4.   The method of claim 1, wherein said externally provided control operations are received

2   from a server device coupled to said client device over a network.

1   5.   The method of claim 1, wherein said current operating state of said client device is

2   determined by inspecting at least one status register on said client.

1   6.   The method of claim 1, wherein said control operations are permitted while said client

2   device is in a system hung state.

1   7.   The method of claim 1, wherein said externally provided control operations are received via

2   a network data packet encapsulated according to a remote management and control protocol

3   (RMCP).

1   8.   An apparatus comprising:

2   a first electronic component;

3   a bus;

4   a sensor coupled to said bus and said first electronic component; and

5 a second electronic component coupled to said bus to conditionally cause said first

6 electronic component to perform a plurality of functions through said sensor, via said bus,

7 responsive to externally provided control operations.

1 9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said first electronic component further comprises a

2 reset pin, and wherein said second electronic component coupled to said bus conditionally causes

3. said first electronic component to perform a reset function.

1 10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein said first electronic component includes a processor.

1 11. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said bus includes a system management bus.

1 12. The apparatus of claim 8, further comprising a network controller.

1 13. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein said external control operations are provided by a

2 server device connected to said apparatus through said network controller.

1 14. The apparatus of claim 8, further comprising:

2 an operating system; and

3 a processor to execute said operating system.

1   1. (Amended)   In a client device, a method comprising:

2   receiving externally provided control operations;

3   determining a current operating state of said client device; and

4   conditionally executing said control operations if execution of said control operations are

5   permitted while said client device is in said determined current <u>operating</u> state.

1   2.   The method of claim 1, wherein receiving externally provided control operations includes

2   receiving a system reset operation.

1   3.   The method of claim 1, wherein receiving externally provided control operations includes

2   receiving a system power operation.

1   4.   The method of claim 1, wherein said externally provided control operations are received

2   from a server device coupled to said client device over a network.

1   5.   The method of claim 1, wherein said current operating state of said client device is

2   determined by inspecting at least one status register on said client.

1   6.   The method of claim 1, wherein said control operations are permitted while said client

2   device is in a system hung state.

1   7.   The method of claim 1, wherein said externally provided control operations are received via

2   a network data packet encapsulated according to a remote management and control protocol

3   (RMCP).

1   8.   An apparatus comprising:

2   a first electronic component;

3   a bus;

4   a sensor coupled to said bus and said first electronic component; and

5   a second electronic component coupled to said bus to conditionally cause said first

6   electronic component to perform a plurality of functions through said sensor, via said bus,

7   responsive to externally provided control operations.

1   9.   The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said first electronic component further comprises a

2   reset pin, and wherein said second electronic component coupled to said bus conditionally causes

3   said first electronic component to perform a reset function.

1   10.   The apparatus of claim 9, wherein said first electronic component includes a processor.

1   11.   The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said bus includes a system management bus.

1   12.   The apparatus of claim 8, further comprising a network controller.

1   13.   The apparatus of claim 12, wherein said external control operations are provided by a

2   server device connected to said apparatus through said network controller.

1   14.   The apparatus of claim 8, further comprising:

2   an operating system; and

3   a processor to execute said operating system.

1   15.   The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said second electronic component conditionally

2   causes said first electronic component to perform said plurality of functions prior to said

3   operating system having been executed by said processor.

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1   16.   The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said externally provided control operations are

2   encapsulated in a remote management and control protocol (RMCP) formed data packet.